

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-08

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 /022 R

66011

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APPROVED BY: EB/IFD/OMA: JABWINDER

-----023600 261703Z /62

R 260305Z JAN 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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FOLLOWING REPEAT GENEVA 01048 SNET ACTION SECSTTE INFO BRUSSELS
USUN NEW YORK.

QUOTE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GENEVA 01048

USEEC

PASS TO UNDER SECRETARY COOPER AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY
KATZ FROM MEISSNER

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UNCTAD, EFIN

SUBJECT: UNCTAD DEBT NEGOTIATIONS: AN EC DEMARCHE IN
WASHINGTON

1. AT LUNCH TODAY THE DANISH REPRESENTATIVE PASSED TO
ME AN EC NOTE WHICH WAS DRAFTED HERE AND WILL BE PRE-
SENTED TO ONE OF YOU IN WASHINGTON ON WEDNESDAY, 25
JANUARY. THE NOTE POLITELY REQUESTS (USES THE WORD
BELIEVES) THAT THE U.S. JOIN THE EC IN TABLING THE
US/EC DEBT PAPER. THE EC DESIRES THAT YOU RESPOND
RAPIDLY SO THE ANSWER CAN BE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION
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PRIOR TO THE END OF THE PRESENT UNCTAD DEBT MEETING IN
GENEVA. THE NOTE WILL BE PRESENTED BY THE DANISH
AMBASSADOR AS REPRESENTATIVE OF THE EC.

2. THE NOTE IS AN OUTGROWTH OF MY DISCUSSIONS IN PARIS
AND GENEVA. WE HAVE RECEIVED CONTINUED PRESSURE TO JOIN
THE EC IN TABLING THE US/EC PAPER. I HAVE EMPHASIZED

THAT THE DECISION NOT TO TABLE WAS MADE AT THE UNDER SECRETARY LEVEL IN WASHINGTON AND MY INSTRUCTIONS WERE FIRM. I HAVE EXPLAINED FULLY THE BACKGROUND OF OUR POSITION. ON MONDAY THE DANISH ASKED INFORMALLY WHETHER I OR WASHINGTON WOULD BE INSULTED IF A DIRECT POLITICAL REQUEST TO TABLE THE PAPER WAS MADE. I SAID WE WOULD NOT BE INSULTED OR OFFENDED AND WOULD TAKE THESE CONCERNS INTO CONSIDERATION. I WAS QUITE CLEAR THAT SUCH A REQUEST WOULD NOT NECESSARILY CHANGE THE AMERICAN POSITION.

3. THE PROS AND CONS OF U.S. CONSENT TO TABLE THE US/EC PAPER STILL REMAIN ROUGHLY THE SAME AS TWO WEEKS AGO. THE EC IS OBVIOUSLY SATISFIED TO TABLE THE PAPER AT THE END OF THIS MEETING. NO ONE BELIEVES THE G-77 WILL ACCEPT THE PAPER AS IS. THE GERMANS ARE HOLDING FOR NO CHANGES IF THE PAPER IS TABLED. FRENCH WILL ACCEPT SEMANTIC CHANGES AND MOST OF THE EC IS WITH THEM. THE DUTCH AND DANES SEEM WILLING TO GO FURTHER. THE EC IN MY ESTIMATION WILL NOT TABLE WITHOUT THE U.S. THIS WEEK.

4. WE ARE DOING OUR BEST TO MOVE THIS SESSION TO DEAL WITH ONLY PROCEDURAL ISSUES. IF THE PAPER IS NOT TABLED IT WILL NOT OBSTRUCT THE WORK THE U.S. WISHES TO COMPLETE THIS WEEK. I SEE NO REASON TO CHANGE OUR POSITION AT THIS MEETING. HOWEVER, YOU SHOULD CONSIDER REASSURING THE EC THAT WE DO STAND BEHIND THE PAPER, BOTH CRISIS AND STRUCTURAL SECTIONS, AND OUR MINDS ARE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OPEN TO THE POSSIBILITY OF TABLING AT THE MINISTERIAL MEETING.

5. IT IS IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT COREA MENTIONED IN HIS SPEECH THAT WHAT WILL BE SOUGHT AT THE MINISTERIAL ON THIS SUBJECT IS BROAD AGREEMENT ON GUIDELINE CONCEPTS WITH NEGOTIATION OF SPECIFIC WORDING TO FOLLOW OVER SOME UNSPECIFIED TIME PERIOD. G-77 MEMBERS ARE NOT PRESSING FOR TABLING BECAUSE THEY CONSIDER THE PAPER WAS TABLED IN THE EXPERTS REPORT. INDICATION WE HAVE GOTTEN FROM G-77 IS THAT IMPROVEMENT IN ODA "QUALITY" IS MORE URGENT TO G-77 THAN GUIDELINES. THEY MAY WELL OPT FOR COREA'S IDEA OF NEGOTIATING PARTICULARS ON GUIDELINES AFTER THE MINISTERIAL SO THAT MINISTERIAL WILL FOCUS ON ODA RELIEF. IMMEDIATE TRANSFERS TAKE PRECEDENCE OVER CONCEPTUAL RHETORIC.

6. TEXT OF EC NOTE FOLLOWS: QUOTE:

AT THE SECOND SESSION IN UNCTAD ON THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL GROUP OF EXPERTS ON THE INDEBTEDNESS OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, WHICH TOOK PLACE IN GENEVA, DECEMBER 5 -16,

1977, IT WAS AGREED AS A RESULT OF CONTACTS BETWEEN THE EEC AND THE US GOVERNMENT THAT THE JOINT EEC/US PROPOSALS FROM THE CIEC ON FEATURES WHICH COULD PROVIDE GUIDANCE IN FUTURE OPERATIONS RELATING TO DEBT PROBLEMS PURSUANT TO UNCTAD RESOLUTION 94 (IV), COULD BE INTRODUCED IN UNCTAD AT THE DEBT EXPERTS MEETING FOR REFERENCE. THE GROUP B PAPER ON THE DEBT SITUATION OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES CAME TO THE CONCLUSION THAT DEVELOPMENTS SINCE CIEC CONFIRMED THE PERTINENCE AND THE VALUE OF THESE PROPOSALS.

THE TEXT OF THE PROPOSALS WAS, CONSEQUENTLY, ANNEXED TO THE GROUP B PAPER AS A REFERENCE DOCUMENT FOR THE TASK OF THE EXPERTS GROUP AND, ULTIMATELY OF THE 9TH SPECIAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SESSION OF THE TDB AT THE MINISTERIAL LEVEL. CONSISTENT WITH THE AGREEMENT REACHED AT THE CIEC THAT THE WORK DONE ON THE PROPOSALS COULD FORM A USEFUL BASIS *94 :9, 8\$34-589, 8, 95#34 -0049048-53 *94-, THE JOINT EEC/US PROPOSALS ARE A VITAL ELEMENT IN THE NORTH/SOUTH DIALOGUE.

THE EEC IS CONCERNED THAT AT THE TIME OF THE SECOND PART OF THE 9TH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE TDB, THE MANDATE OF WHICH IS TO PREPARE THE ITEMS ON THE AGENDA FOR THE MINISTERIAL MEETING IN MARCH, ONLY THE GROUP OF 77 HAS CLEARLY STATED THAT THEIR PROPOSALS ARE FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE MINISTERS AND NOT JUST FOR REFERENCE.

THE EEC BELIEVES THAT, IN ORDER TO RESTORE THE BALANCE AND TO AVOID CREATING THE IMPRESSION OF NOT BEING WILLING TO ADHERE TO OUR OWN PROPOSALS FROM THE CIEC, GROUP B SHOULD NOW MAKE A DECLARATION INDICATING THAT THESE PROPOSALS SHOULD BE REGARDED AS BEING PUT FORWARD FOR ACCEPTANCE BY THE MINISTERIAL MEETING ON AN EQUAL FOOTING WITH THOSE ALREADY MADE BY THE GROUP OF 77.

THIS DECLARATION SHOULD BE MADE BEFORE THE END OF THE PRESENT SESSION IN PREPARATION OF THE MINISTERIAL MEETING.

GROUP B SHOULD ALSO BE READY TO MOVE A DRAFT RESOLUTION EMBODYING THESE PROPOSALS IN CASE THAT SHOULD BECOME NECESSARY IF THE GROUP OF 77 TAKE THAT STEP THEMSELVES. UNQUOTE. VANDEN HEUVEL UNQUOTE VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DEBTS, NEGOTIATIONS, DIPLOMATIC NOTES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE021043
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: EB/IFD/OMA: JABWINDER
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780039-0190
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780118/aaaaapkl.tel
Line Count: 166
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: ab3509e0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3707483
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UNCTAD DEBT NEGOTIATIONS: AN EC DEMARCHE IN WASHINGTON
TAGS: EFIN, PDIP, UNCTAD
To: USUN NEW YORK EEC
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/ab3509e0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014